

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1893

6
7 S.P. 686

In Senate, January 10, 1984

8 Submitted by the Department of Marine Resources pursuant to Joint
9 Rule 24.

10 Reference to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife is suggested and
ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator Minkowsky of Androscoggin.

11 Cosponsors: Representative Ainsworth of Yarmouth, Representative
Holloway of Edgecomb.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOUR
16

17 AN ACT Concerning Repeal of Commercial
18 Fishing for Atlantic Salmon in the
19 St. Croix River.
20

21 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as
22 follows:

23 12 MRSA §6553, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1977, c.
24 661, §5, is repealed.

25 STATEMENT OF FACT

26 This section of the Atlantic salmon statutes re-
27 lates to the authorized taking of Atlantic salmon in
28 weirs in the St. Croix River from May 15th to August
29 31st. This statute is inconsistent with the general
30 law governing salmon fishing in coastal waters which
31 prohibits the taking of salmon except by hook and
32 line from July 16th to October 15th.

1 The Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Commission, in coop-
2 eration with the Canadian Department of Fisheries and
3 Oceans, is attempting to reestablish a salmon run in
4 the St. Croix River. To accomplish this purpose, both
5 Canada and Maine have been stocking Atlantic salmon
6 in the St. Croix River. A new fishway was constructed
7 at Milltown, New Brunswick by the New Brunswick Elec-
8 tric Power Commission in October, 1981. Improved wa-
9 ter quality and fishways in all the main stem dams
10 allow Atlantic salmon access to the headwaters of the
11 St. Croix River. There is no commercial fishing al-
12 lowed for salmon on the Canadian side of the St.
13 Croix River. Repeal of this section of the statute
14 allows for greater escapement of salmon to headwater
15 spawning areas in order to reestablish a native salm-
16 on run on the St. Croix River.

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